

TWO NEW SPECIES OF *RHOPALOCERA* FROM THE SOLOMON ISLANDS.

By THE HON. WALTER ROTHSCCHILD.

LATELY I have received some butterflies collected by Carl Ribbe on the island of Bougainville, among which are two striking novelties.

1. *Prothoe ribbei* sp. nov.

This species in size approaches nearest to *P. layardi* Godm. & Salv., *P. Z. S.*, p. 758 (1882), from New Ireland, but is a most distinct species.

MALE.—*Upperside*: black. Forewings crossed by a transverse creamy-white band, which is narrow between the discoidal nervules and widens suddenly at the upper median branch, but does not become so wide as in allied species. Hindwings also with a transverse creamy-white band, which is of almost uniform width, and which is inwardly nearly straight, except at the extremities; basal third of abdominal margin white.

Underside: blackish brown. Forewings with a submarginal row of creamy patches, of which those in the apical region are more distinct; behind the costa are also two indistinct spots; within the cell are a varying number of minute white spots, from five to seven. Hindwings with a submarginal row of golden yellow markings, which are linear, except the two before or behind the upper median branch; inside this row stand eight pale blue irregular half-rings, inside which again there is a band of thin buffish transverse streaks; on the basal third there are some minute white spots.

FEMALE.—Similar to the *male*; larger, browner. The band on the forewings is much narrower, macular, or is even obliterated, except a spot near the inner margin; that on the hindwings also narrower; abdominal margin unicolorous. Below, the submarginal spots to the forewings more distinct.

Expanse of wings: ♂, 4.2 inches = 107 mm.; ♀, 4.5 inches = 115 mm.

Hab. Bougainville Island, Solomon Islands (Carl Ribbe *leg.*; ♂, ♀, types in coll. Ribbe; ♂, ♀ in Mus. Tring).

2. *Delias schönbergi* sp. nov.

MALE.—*Upperside*: white, base powdered with black scales. Forewings, in the apical region, with a row of six white spots inside which the disc is grey; apical margin black. Hindwings with a narrow black margin.

Underside: forewings with basal third yellowish; outer half black, the black area entering the apex of the cell, including six well-defined white subapical markings. Hindwings with basal half yellow; outer half with a submarginal row of six large pear-shaped scarlet patches, each circled with white; disc between costal margin and lower median nervule and the outer margin black.

FEMALE.—*Upperside*: grey. Forewings with outer half black; a subapical row of white spots, of which the anterior ones are large, the posterior ones small.

Hindwings with abdominal margin white, outer margin black, and the disc between the upper discoidal, upper median, and the discocellular nervules greyish black; a submarginal band of large pale pink patches.

Underside: similar to the *male*; the submarginal spots rather larger.

Hab. Bougainville Island, Solomon Islands (Carl Ribbe *leg.*; *types*: ♂ in coll. Ribbe, ♀ in Mus. Tring).

This species is named after Herr von Schönberg, at the request of the collector.

A NEW SPECIES OF *THERETRA* FROM THE D'ENTRE-CASTEAUX ISLANDS.

By THE HON. WALTER ROTHCHILD.

Theretra alberti sp. nov.

THIS extremely distinct species belongs to the *eratus* group, but has no near ally.

Forewings: greyish chocolate or chocolate grey; basal third crossed by three transverse dark brown bars, the first separate, the two outer almost touching; within the cell there is a black stigma with a paler centre; about one-third from the outer margin the wings are crossed by a heavy dark brown transverse bar; between this bar and the margin is a transverse line, followed by an indistinct zigzag line. Costa and outer margin chocolate red.

Hindwings: golden orange, with a broad deep brown border not reaching quite to the anal angle.

Underside of wings deep chocolate red, vermiculated and streaked with deep brown and yellow.

Head and thorax greyish chocolate, darker in the centre; on each side of the thorax is a **bright golden round spot**. Abdomen greyish rust-colour, with a pale band marking each segment. Antennae red; legs greyish pink.

Expanse of wings: 3.5 inches = 89 mm.

Hab. Fergusson Island, D'Entrecasteaux Islands (September to October, 1895); Albert S. Meek *leg.*).

Named after the collector.